



## Welcome

Welcome to the September edition of the SEEd e-newsletter! We will be aiming to keep in touch once every 2 weeks with news on SEEd developments, sustainable development and ESD, jobs, funding and notifications of any useful upcoming events, courses or consultations. Please let us know what you think...

If you would like to send us an article to include for the next newsletter please email [news@se-ed.org.uk](mailto:news@se-ed.org.uk).

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## SEEd News

Plans are now underway for the official SEEd Launch event in November. SEEd will shortly be in contact with those who have registered their interest to attend this event. For more information on how you can register to attend, please visit our website: [www.se-ed.org.uk](http://www.se-ed.org.uk).

Thank you to all those who have shown an interest in the upcoming consultation workshop: '[Role of schools in contributing to pupils' well-being](#)'. Unfortunately, this workshop is now fully booked. If you have been unable to secure your attendance and feel you may be able to contribute to the discussion, please email us with your comments and experiences: [hermione.fricker@se-ed.org.uk](mailto:hermione.fricker@se-ed.org.uk).

## Members News

### 1. Nowhere to hide

The Local Government Association is advising parents and teachers to defy the compensation culture by encouraging children to get involved in playing traditional playground games: [www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pageId=957831](http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pageId=957831).

Councils are being issued with a list of ten traditional outdoor playground activities such as British Bulldog, Tag, Stuck in the Mud and Hide and Seek to combat child obesity, following predictions that 60% of children in the UK will be obese by 2050.

While this encouragement for active outdoor play is to be welcomed, it will take more than a list to inspire children to play. Many school playgrounds are uninspiring, boring spaces which discourage positive play. For example, a dull concrete playground offers limited places to play hide and seek, whereas trees, bushes, nooks and crannies naturally entice children into such games.

Funding is now becoming available to primary schools to improve their buildings and grounds and it is vital that some of this is used to create more exciting play spaces. Learning through Landscapes, the national school grounds charity, has been helping schools improve their playgrounds for 18 years. In a survey of 700 schools that had improved their grounds, 85% of respondents said they had seen an increase in healthy active play as a result of change. In addition to this, LTL found that:

- 73% saw improved pupil behavior;
- 64% saw reductions in bullying;
- 65% saw attitudes towards learning improved;
- 84% saw better social interaction; and
- 66% said school grounds improvements have increased community/ parental involvement.

Chief Executive of *Learning through Landscapes* Catherine Andrews comments, "It's great that active play is being encouraged by the LGA, we must also remember that stimulating playgrounds also encourages healthy active play and can make a significant contribution to a child's education, improve behaviour, develop social interaction and even reduce bullying."



## 2. Food for Life Partnership

The Food for Life Partnership is a network of schools and communities across England committed to transforming food culture by revolutionising school meals, reconnecting young people with where their food comes from and inspiring families to cook and grow food. A total of 340 schools are now enrolled and working towards achieving a Bronze, Silver and Gold Mark award in the lead up to the 1st Annual Food for Life Partnership Awards Ceremony on 1 December 2008. All schools can enroll online by filling in a short form and then will receive a free introductory pack with resources and guidance on the awards.

Back in June, the Food for Life Partnership along with the Local Authorities Catering Association, Caroline Walker Trust and Sustain, called on Government to implement "*Six steps to transform school food culture*" without further delay. Read the full report to find out how a school food culture revolution can beat obesity and tackle climate change. Copies available via the website.

For more information or to enroll your school, visit <http://www.foodforlife.org.uk>

## SD and ESD News

### 1. UNESCO and UNEP to launch new kit encouraging sustainable consumption

UNESCO and UNEP have created an online kit giving guidance on sustainable consumption. The kit is downloadable from the [Youth Exchange website](#) (YXC) and is divided into useful sections making it accessible and easy to use.

Using accessible information, concrete examples and everyday language, the kit provides many facts & figures on SC issues. The tool kit highlights the links between cultural, geographical and inter-generational factors. In particular, YXC underlines how SC directly relates to quality of life, efficient use of resources (both human and natural), reduction of waste, ethical issues such as child labour, animal cruelty, fair trade and general equality.

### 2. BTCV Environmental Trainers Network

BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) run a network of environmental trainers, established in 1991, where those interested in finding environmental training can have access to a range of environmental training opportunities. Courses range across a variety of subject areas including areas of Working with communities, Regeneration, Sustainability, Promoting diversity, Fundraising, Communication, Publicity, Management, Education & Play, Training skills, Personal effectiveness and more.

To join the Environmental Trainers Network email: [ETN@btcv.org.uk](mailto:ETN@btcv.org.uk) or call 0121 359 2113

To find out more visit: [www2.btcv.org.uk/display/etn](http://www2.btcv.org.uk/display/etn).



### 3. Learning Outside the Classroom

The government's 'Learning Outside the Classroom' manifesto sets out a vision to enable every young person to experience the world beyond the classroom as an essential part of their learning and personal development.

The manifesto states, "Learning outside the classroom is about raising achievement through an organised, powerful approach to learning in which direct experience is of prime importance. This is not only about what we learn but importantly how and where we learn."

The manifesto was launched in November 2006 and can be downloaded in full from the Teachernet website.

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/teachingandlearning/resourcematerials/outsideclassroom>

### 4. Ofsted report – Schools and Sustainability

Ofsted have recently published their findings from a survey conducted over a selection of 41 schools to assess progress towards the 'National framework for sustainable schools'. A small number of schools were found to have successfully embedded sustainability into the heart of the school and incorporated sustainability into lessons across the curriculum. The majority, however, had only a vague grasp of the concept of sustainability and any activities to promote it were add-on as opposed to well-integrated.

To download a full copy of the report visit: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).

## Publications and guidance

### 1. 'The Mismatch Problem' – Malcolm Gladwell highlights the problem with standards and measurements in assessing professional ability

In the following video clip from the New Yorker Conference *Tipping Point* author, Malcolm Gladwell, gives evidence against simple measurements being reliable criteria for whether someone can do a professional job. He asserts that modern professions are complex beyond simplistic measurements and that in the teaching world certification for teachers is meaningless.

<http://www.newyorker.com/online/video/conference/2008/gladwell>

### 2. Sir Ken Robinson on Education for Creativity

Another video clip, this time from the Apple Education Leadership Summit, in which Sir Ken Robinson asserts the importance of creativity and the power of imagination as the "source of every form of human achievement". Sir Ken expresses concern that creativity is often suppressed in education and highlights the need to find ways of drawing out children's capacity to be creative, which he defines as "the process of having original ideas that have value."

<http://edcommunity.apple.com/ali/story.php?itemID=15300&version=4114&pageID=10155>



## Consultations

### School's role in promoting pupil well being

The Department for Children, Schools and Families has published a consultation for draft guidance on 'School's role in promoting pupil well being', an area which school governing bodies have a duty to promote.

The consultation runs from 3 July to 25 September. For more information visit:

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations/conDetails.cfm?consultationId=1564>

## Events and Courses

### 1. All Our Futures Conference - Education Waking to Threat, Hope and Possibility

**Description:** Preparations are well under way for the international 'All Our Futures Conference' to be hosted this September at the University of Plymouth by the Centre for Sustainable Futures. The conference will look at issues around Education for Sustainability, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainability and climate change.

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008

**Venue:** The University of Plymouth

**Further Information:** For further information on the conference please visit: <http://csf.plymouth.ac.uk/?q=allourfutures>

### 2. Teaching Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship

**Description:** This course is aimed at educators working with KS2/3 (but some of the learning will provide background material which is useful for teaching at a higher or lower level) and takes place at the Centre for Alternative Technology where participants can engage with sustainable solutions in situ. CAT education staff will use years of experience to provide practical activities, lectures and discussions covering many aspects of ESDGC, including Climate Change, Eco Footprinting, and Renewable Energy.

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October

**Fees:** £330 / £240 / £180

**Venue:** -

**Further Information:** For more information please see: <http://www.cat.org.uk/shortcourses>.



### 3. Master of Arts course in Development Education

**Description:** The Institute of Education are running a new Master of Arts course in Development Education starting this October. The course is taught within the Development Education Research Centre, an international hub for new thinking about development education. The course is designed for staff responsible for managing and delivering development education or related programmes within NGOs, professional bodies, government departments and also professionals in teaching, youth work, or in community, adult or higher education.

**Date:** -

**Venue:** -

**Further Information:** To pursue your interest please contact the course leader Dr Douglas Bourn: [d.bourn@ioe.ac.uk](mailto:d.bourn@ioe.ac.uk) or ring 020 3073 8309/8308

### 4. Upcoming event at the Institute of Education focusing on community cohesion

**Description:** SHIFTING MARGINS, SHIFTING CENTRES: NEGOTIATING DIFFERENCE IN EDUCATION IN THE TWENTY FIRST CENTURY CONFERENCE.  
International conference for academics, NGO practitioners, minority community organisations, educators and policy makers.  
This conference aims to promote dialogue, critical reflection and strategies of negotiation in relation to key issues in debates around community cohesion, equality, diversity, identity, power, difference, citizenship and global justice in education.  
The conference is organised by Development Education Research Centre, Institute of Education, University of Canterbury, New Zealand and the Through Other Eyes international initiative.  
Speakers: Professor Jagdish Gundara, Institute of Education; Dr. Jane Gilbert, New Zealand Council for Educational Research; Professor Lynn Mario T. Menezes de Souza, University of São Paulo, Brazil and Dr. Vanessa Andreotti, University of Nottingham/University of Canterbury, New Zealand.

**Date:** Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2008

**Venue:** Jeffery Hall at the Institute of Education, University of London, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL

**Further Information:** For further info and an event flyer email Elaine Peck: [e.peck@ioe.ac.uk](mailto:e.peck@ioe.ac.uk)

## Jobs

### 1. Soil association - Northern Farm Links Officer

**Description:** The Soil Association are looking for an experienced professional to research and devise cutting edge educational resources for the Food for Life Partnership. The successful candidate for this part time role (2 days per week) will deliver One Planet Food workshops in 2 regions and contribute to the development of these workshops. the role also includes promoting the Farm Links Programme to FSCs in specific regions.

**Salary:** -

**Closing Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2008

**Further Information:** A full advertisement for this post is on our website: <http://www.soilassociation.org/web/sa/saweb.nsf/Aboutus/Jobs.html>



## Subscription

If you would like to unsubscribe from SEEd's e-news please email [news@se-ed.org.uk](mailto:news@se-ed.org.uk) and put 'Unsubscribe' in the subject line.